

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A headphone apparatus, comprising:

a baffle portion ~~formed to surround~~ forming outer edges of the headphone apparatus and surrounding a space except a front opening portion of a driver unit, the baffle portion being formed of an air-permeable porous material such that air from outside the apparatus permeates through the material and external sound is prevented from being trapped interior to the baffle portion, degrading sound quality.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said baffle portion is approximately cone-shaped.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein an opening is made in a back surface of said back housing portion.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said air-permeable porous material of the back housing portion comprises an unwoven fabric of chemical fiber.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said air-permeable porous material of the back housing portion comprises a cellulose based material.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said driver unit is provided in a bridge portion shaped like an arch forming a bridge to a rim which forms a frame.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the cone shape of said baffle portion is asymmetrical with respect to an axis of the cone.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said unwoven fabric of chemical fiber of the back housing portion is combined with a porous material through an air-permeable adhesive layer to stabilize a shape of the fabric.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said cellulose based material of the back housing portion is combined with a porous material through an air-permeable adhesive layer to stabilize a shape of the cellulose based material.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a microphone device is attached to said headphone apparatus.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a back housing portion formed to cover a back surface of a driver unit,

the back housing portion being formed of an air-permeable porous material such that external sound is prevented from being trapped interior to the back housing portion, degrading sound quality.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the driver unit is provided in a bridge portion shaped like an arch forming a bridge to a rim which forms a frame.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a microphone device is attached to said headphone apparatus.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said air-permeable porous material of the baffle portion comprises an unwoven fabric of chemical fiber.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said air-permeable porous material of the baffle portion comprises a cellulose based material.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said unwoven fabric of chemical fiber of the baffle portion is combined with a porous material through an air-permeable adhesive layer to stabilize a shape of the fabric.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The headphone apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said cellulose based material of the baffle portion is combined with a porous material through an air-permeable adhesive layer to stabilize a shape of the cellulose based material.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The headphone apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the back housing portion is an outermost surface of the headphone apparatus.

Claim 19 (Canceled).